

PRESS RELEASE



Indonesia and Germany Expand Cooperation on Integration of the German Language in Indonesian Nursing Education

JAKARTA – As part of the ongoing collaboration between Indonesia and Germany on skilled labour mobility, the Goethe-Institut and the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia signed a new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Thursday, 21 August 2025 at Jakarta III Health Polytechnic. This agreement marks the third phase of the initiative launched in 2023 and expands integration of the German language into nursing programmes at four additional health polytechnics: Tasikmalaya, Semarang, East Kalimantan and Bengkulu.

The MoU was signed by the Regional Director of the Goethe-Institut for Southeast Asia, Australia and New Zealand, Constanze Michel; the Director of the Tasikmalaya Health Polytechnic, Dini Mariani; the acting Director of the Semarang Health Polytechnic, Sugianto; the Director of the East Kalimantan Health Polytechnic, Parellangi; and the Director of the Bengkulu Health Polytechnic, Linda.

The signing took place during the official visit of the German Foreign Minister, Johann Wadephul, and his delegation to Indonesia. As part of the visit, Minister Wadephul toured the Jakarta III Health Polytechnic, one of the pilot institutions in the integration of the German language into nursing education. At the campus, he met with Indonesia's Minister of Health, Budi Gunadi Sadikin, and they engaged with nursing students, observed a practical nursing training session, and visited a pre-integration course.

Minister Wadephul stated, "We want to intensify our efforts to support skilled workers from Indonesia to come and work in Germany, especially in the health care sector. Broadening the cooperation between the Goethe-Institut and the Indonesian Ministry of Health is an important step towards this. This shows what can be done if theory, practical skills and language training go hand in hand – a win for both our countries."

This international class is designed to educate Indonesian health polytechnic students using a curriculum standardised with the support of German experts. Additionally, it prepares students to become proficient in German, enabling them to be deployed directly in Germany after graduation.

Previously, in September 2024, Minister Budi said, "This effort is being made to provide job opportunities and deliver deeper and higher-quality education for nursing graduates from health polytechnics in Indonesia. This cooperation is not only about the relationship between Indonesia and Germany, but also serves as proof of the excellent capabilities of Indonesian nurses."

Constanze Michel said, "The expansion of this initiative to four additional health polytechnics beyond the ongoing programmes in Jakarta III, Bandung, Medan and Maluku marks a new and important phase in our collaboration. Our goal is to equip Indonesian nurses with the language and intercultural skills they need to pursue professional opportunities in Germany. In the context of skilled labour mobility, we aim to empower young people to take self-determined migration paths and enable them not only to integrate into a new society, but also to actively participate in it."

The cooperation with the health polytechnics in Tasikmalaya, Semarang, East Kalimantan and Bengkulu will also include the introduction of a German

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language class in July 2026. The Goethe-Institut will train the staff who will teach the class, develop a language syllabus aligned with the Indonesian nursing curriculum, as well as teaching materials. Additionally, the Goethe-Institut will analyse the curriculum and make recommendations to facilitate the recognition of Indonesian nursing qualifications in Germany.

About Goethe-Institut

The Goethe-Institut is the Federal Republic of Germany's cultural institute, active worldwide. We promote the study of German abroad and encourage international cultural exchange. We also provide a comprehensive image of Germany through information on German political, social and cultural life. Our various cultural and educational programmes support intercultural dialogue and enable cultural participation. These programmes strengthen the structures of civil society and support global mobility.

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